The Jewels of the Air: Tiny Birds Which Seem Like Flying Gems.

FROM THE PAINTINGS BY W. HAMMER.

AS BRILLIANT AS STONES OF MANY FACETS: HUMMING-BIRDS—HELIANGELUS MICRASTER; THAUMASTURA CORA; MYRMIA MICRURA; AND LESBIA SPARGANURA.

OPALS OF THE AIR: HUMMING-BIRDS—TOPAZA PELLA; OREOTROCHILUS CHIMBORAZO; DIPHLOGAENA HESPERUS; HELIANGELUS VIOLA; CYANOLESBIA COELESTIS; AND BOISSONNEAUA JARDINEI.

Humming-birds may well be described as the jewels of the air, for their brilliant, metallic colours, glittering in the light of the sun, make them seem like flying gems—opals, sapphires, and rubies. The bird's method of procuring food is curious: it remains in flight while collecting from the flowers the honey and the small insects on which it lives. Its tongue is extensile, for the better gathering of this food, which it can obtain even from deep bell-shaped blooms. The flight of the humming-bird is unlike that of any other bird: the wings move so rapidly that they become a mere blur to the human eye. It has been supposed by Gould and other observers that the bird has the unique power of backward flight.

NOT YET THOROUGHLY BRITISH: THE SEASIDE RESOR

DRAWN BY A. C. MICHAEL

AT THE BATHING—AND STROLLING—HOUR: ON THE SANI

In our issue of August 10, we published a double-page drawing showing that the British seaside resort is not yet thoroughly Germanised or Frenchified, despite the fac that the Con place also retains its old individuality—although our friends in Paris, more especially, delight in being quite English, and we, as a nation, are app

RESORT IN FRANCE AS IT IS ON SUMMER DAYS.

A. C. Michael.

THE SANDS OF OUR NEAREST FOREIGN NEIGHBOUR.

fact that the Continentalisation of our shores is proceeding apace. Here is the promised companion to that picture, an illustration which proves that the French watering-a nation, are appreciating more and more the strands across the sea and taking to them our clothes, our manners, and our customs.

England's National Flower in Fresh Forms: New Roses.

PERFECT BLOSSOMS—BY NATURAL-COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY.

"Mrs. Arthur Bide." "Sunburst." "Rose Queen." "Mrs. Andrew Carnegie."

"Mrs. Arthur Bide" was exhibited at the recent Show of the National Rose Society by Messrs. S. Bide and Son, of Farnham. "Sunburst," which won a silver-gilt medal, was shown by Messrs. Beckwith, of Hoddesdon, acting for the grower, M. Pernet Ducher; "Rose Queen" was exhibited by Messrs. Wallace, of Dunstable; "Mrs. Andrew Carnegie," winner of a gold medal, was shown by Messrs. J. Cocker and Sons, of Aberdeen.

"Old Gold." "Colleen." "Eileen Smiley." "Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt."

"Old Gold" won a gold medal at the recent Show of the National Rose Society: and "Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt," a silver-gilt medal. All the roses shown in this natural-colour photograph were exhibited by Messrs. Samuel McGredy and Son, of Portadown, Ireland. It should be noted that, very naturally, the various new roses which were in evidence were one of the greatest attractions of the Show. Throughout the afternoon a long queue awaited admission to the tent containing them.

Natural-Colour Photographs Specially Taken for "The Illustrated London News."